

**Andrew Jackson to Amos Kendall, September 29, 1842,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

class=MsoNormal>TO AMOS KENDALL. 1

1 Cincinnati Commercial , Feb. 10, 1879.

Hermitage, September 29, 1842.

My Dear Sir: I have just received your letter of the 19th instant, and it rends my heart with sorrow to read that you who so ably and faithfully watched over the interests of the government as Postmaster Genl. should be crushed and deprived of your personal liberty, by such a cruel and unjust judgment against you; and that the government, and Congress should silently look on and permit such vile oppression upon one of its most faithful officers, who by his stern and unflinching honesty saved millions of the money of the government from the rapacious hands of contractors; and closed the door against many frauds contemplated against the United States.

This precedent must lead to make the President and all the heads of Depts., subject to be harrassed by suits, by every villain who wishes to put his hands into the public crib, and is prevented by them; and we see them all with their hands folded, without an effort to relieve you, or to have this dangerous innovation set aside by the Supreme Court, and with lukewarmness and stoic philosophy see you immured in a prison for preserving the funds of the Government from the rapacious grasp of Stockton and Stokes for improvements stipulated, contrary to my express order, and, as the testimony produced before me shew, had never been performed. I still hope that the Supreme Court will set aside the Judgt, and

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release you. Can I be of service to you in this business? if I can, I pray you to point to the way, and I will with pleasure adopt it.

I sincerely regret that you cannot visit me, but still more the cause which prevents you. It will give me pleasure to see at the Hermitage your friend Mr. Jas. A. McLaughlin, to whom I have this day written, and will with pleasure throw open every paper I have for his inspection, and selection, having every confidence in any person you recommend. How I regret my debilitated state of health that prevents me from attending to the selection myself; and Andrew and Major A. J. Donelson are so pestered with their own private concerns that they can give me no aid.

At the city I had my papers well arranged, but from my debilitated state when packing up to leave Washington my papers were unknown 0195 171 to me at the time, thrown promiscuously into boxes, placed all in confusion, from which I have not had health to reclaim them, and I am fearfull some of them, valuable to history, lost. But when Mr. McLaughlin arives [they] may be regained, and should anything prevent him, I will try to have them looked over, selected and sent you. To prevent their being purloined on their way to you, I will send them thro' Mr. Blair who will hand them to you. I have just got from a friend at New Orleans Martin's history, and have sent it on by Miss Eliza Blair who has paid us a visit, and have directed Mr. Blair when he reads it, to hand it over to you. Martin's history was written and published in 1827, to aid Clay's election, and to detract from my character, and thereby throw a shield over treachery and treason of Louaillier, Blank and Co. But altho it is a tissue of falsehood, and false colourings, still there is something may be made serviceable in it. Days ago when I first heard of it, I wrote to a friend to procure and send it to me, but he replied that it was a tissue of falsehood and false colourings, and had fell still-born from the press, and Mr. Breedlove, who sent me this copy, informs me that it was the only copy to be found in New Orleans.

With the best wishes of myself and all my household, to you and yours,